VZCZCXRO6939 OO RUEHBI RUEHCI DE RUEHKT #0416 1051131 ZNY CCCCC ZZH O 141131Z APR 08 FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8320 INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 6424 RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 6741 RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY 2030 RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 4777 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 5990 RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 2355 RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY 0092 RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA PRIORITY 4125 RUEHBI/AMCONSUL MUMBAI PRIORITY 3825 RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 2021 RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 3154 RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY RHMFISS/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

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SUBJECT: NEPAL'S CA ELECTION: MAOISTS PROJECTED TO WIN A

PLURALITY

REF: KATHMANDU 408

Classified By: Ambassador Nancy J. Powell. Reasons 1.4 (b/d)

Experts Predict A Maoist Plurality

11. (C) Although the Maoists continue to dominate the contest for the Constituent Assembly's 240 first-past-the-post seats (FPTP), international election experts predicted to the Ambassador April 14 that the Maoist lead would not remain as large once the proportional representation (PR) seats were factored in. Assuming the voting pattern on the PR ballots is similar to that for the FPTP ballots, and using very preliminary results, the experts project the Maoists would have a plurality, but not a majority, in the 601-member Assembly. (Note: This assumption remains to be tested. End note.)

Maoists Continue To Dominate First-Past-the-Post Races

12. (C) Based on the most recent official results in the Constituent Assembly's 240 FPTP races, the Maoists continue to be far in front of the other parties. As of noon (local time) on April 14, they had taken 91 of 164 declared seats. The Nepali Congress (NC) was second with 27 seats and the Communist Party of Nepal - United Marxist Leninist was third with 23 (septel). These totals convert to the following percentages: Maoists - 55 percent; NC - 16 percent and UML - 14 percent.